

Message Text

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44

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 ARAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 AEC-11

AID-20 CEA-02 CIEP-03 COME-00 FEAE-00 FPC-01 INT-08

OMB-01 SAM-01 SCI-06 STR-08 TRSE-00 FRB-03 DRC-01

/153 W

----- 110148

O R 291630Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7696

INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRIDGETOWN 1501

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG BDIS BB

SUBJ: MOBIL SITUATION CONTINUES UNRESOLVED

REF: BRIDGETOWN 1491

1. MOBIL PROBLEM CONTINUES UNRESOLVED AS TRADE MINISTER SHOWS NO INCLINATION TO MOVE FOR SPEEDY DECISION ON GOB PART. ACCORDING TO LOCAL MANAGER, TRADE MINISTER TAITT CALLED LATE YESTERDAY (AUG 28) TO LAMBASTE MOBIL FOR "HOLDING PISTOL TO GOB'S HEAD" AND TO REMARK THAT "IF PLANT MUST SHUT DOWN THEN LET THIS BE DONE." MOBIL STATES THAT TAITT THEN DECLARED THAT HIS MINISTRY NOT EMPOWERED TO DISCUSS FINANCIAL SUPPORT OR LOAN AND HE SUGGESTED THAT MOBIL TAKE ITS CASE TO MINISTER OF FINANCE WHO, OF COURSE, IS PM BARROW.

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2. MOBIL RESPONDED THAT IT HAD DISCUSSED MATTER FULLY WITH

TAITT IN BEGINNING OF JULY AND HAD CONSTANTLY BEEN IN CONTACT WITH HIM, THAT IT WAS ALMOST SEPTEMBER AND NO SOLUTION WAS IN SIGHT AND THAT MOBIL HAD ASSUMED ALL ALONG THAT TRADE MINISTRY WAS PROPER POINT OF CONTACT FOR DISCUSSION OF PROBLEM. MOBIL THEN SUBMITTED LETTER DESCRIBING CURRENT SITUATION TO FINANCE MINISTER LATE YESTERDAY.

3. COMMENT: MOBIL REP EXPRESSES BELIEF THAT TAITT HAS NOT KEPT PM BARROW FULLY BRIEFED ON REFINERY SITUATION AND THAT HE MAY NOW BE RELUCTANT TO APPROACH PM WHEN PROBLEM IS AT SUCH SERIOUS STAGE. TAITT'S ANGRY REMARKS WERE OBVIOUSLY MADE WITHOUT MUCH REFLECTION BUT, WHILE THERE MAY BE SOME TRUTH TO WHAT MOBIL MANAGER SAYS, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT TRADE MINISTER CAN STEP OUT OF PICTURE AT THIS STAGE. TANKER REMAINS OFFSHORE AWAITING INSTRUCTIONS, HOW LONG IT WILL REMAIN THERE IS ANYONE'S GUESS. SHOULD TANKER RETURN TO VENEZUELA, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT FUTURE DELIVERIES WILL BE MADE ONLY AGAINST ADVANCE PAYMENT.
SIMMS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM PRODUCTS, ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, INSTRUCTIONS, PETROLEUM REFINING, PRICE TRENDS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: martinml
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BRIDGE01501
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740241-0180
From: BRIDGETOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974089/aaaaahez.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: BRIDGETOWN 1491
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinml
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 SEP 2002 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <26 FEB 2003 by martinml>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MOBIL SITUATION CONTINUES UNRESOLVED
TAGS: ENRG, BDIS, BB, MOBIL, (TAIT), (BARROW)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005